

## Message Text

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46

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 T-03 OMB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-09 H-02 INR-09 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01

PRS-01 SS-14 USIA-12 NIC-01 RSR-01 /114 W

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R 191332 Z MAR 73

FM AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1843

INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMCONSUL LUANDA

C O N F I D E N T I A L LOURENCO MARQUES 0182

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS PINS MCAP MARR MZ

SUBJ: FORMATION OF FLECHA- TYPE FORCE IN MOZAMBIQUE

REF: LOURENCO MARQUES A-35

1. BRITISH CONGEN INFORMED ME IN CONFIDENCE LAST WEEK HE WAS TOLD BY DGS DIRECTOR SABINO IN TETE DISTRICT THAT DGS HAS AT LAST BEEN AUTHORIZED TO RECRUIT AND TRAIN SPECIAL FORCE SIMILAR TO FLECHAS IN ANGOLA.

2. REPORTEDLY, COMMANDER IN CHIEF KAULZA DE ARRIAGA HAD UNTIL RECENTLY OPPOSED FORMATION OF FLECHAS, PREFERRING TO KEEP SPECIALIZED GROUPS OF THIS NATURE UNDER MILITARY CONTROL. HOWEVER, TETE SITUATION REQUIRES SPEEDIEST RESPONSE TO HARD INTELLIGENCE ON WHEREABOUTS OF FRELIMO GUERRILLAS, WHICH DIFFICULT WHEN INTELLIGENCE IS OBTAINED BY DGS ON ONE HAND AND COUNTERACTION MUST BE TAKEN BY MILITARY ON OTHER. HENCE DGS WILL ESTABLISH TEN FLECHA GROUPS OF SIXTY MEN EACH ( WHICH MAY BE GIVEN DIFFERENT NAME TO SAVE MILITARY FACE). THESE FORCES WILL, LIKE ANGOLAN COUNTERPARTS, CONSIST LARGELY OF EX- FRELIMO GUERRILLAS, AND WILL UNDERGO TRAINING AT SPECIAL CAMP NEAR MASSANGA, NORTH OF TETE TOWNSHIP. SIX GROUPS WILL BE STATIONED AT ZUMBO, ZAMBUE, METICO, GAGO COUTINHO, AN UNNAMED POST JUST BELOW SADEZO, AND VILA GAMITO, ALL NEAR  
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ZAMBIAN BORDER. FOUR GROUPS WILL BE HELD IN RESERVE.

3. EACH GROUP WILL OPERATE AS UNIT FOR MORALE AND TEAMWORK PURPOSES, WILL SPECIALIZE IN COUNTER- GUERRILLA TACTICS AND QUICKEST RESPONSE TO FRELIMO ACTION. OPERATING UNDER DGS COMMAND, EACH GROUP MEMBER WILL BE PAID 2,000 ESCUDOS PER MONTH ( ABOUT US DOLS 66) PLUS FOOD AND HOUSING, AND EACH GROUP LEADER 3,000 ESCUDOS PER MONTH ( US DOLS 100). THESE GROUPS WILL REPLACE MILITARY UNITS AT SOME OF ABOVE POSTS.

4. COMMENT: GRANTING DGS LONG- SOUGHT PERMISSION TO ESTABLISH ITS OWN COMBAT UNITS SHOULD REMOVE A PRINCIPAL SOURCE OF FRICTION WITH MILITARY, AND SHOULD EVENTUALLY GIVE PORTUGUESE FORCES GREATER FLEXIBILITY IN COPING WITH TRICKY TETE SITUATION.

5. MIGHT NOTE HERE ALSO RECENT FORMATION OF ANOTHER SPECIALIZED GROUP CALLED PISTEIROS DE COMBAT OR TRACKERS, WHO NOW BEING TRAINED IN VILA PERY. FIRST UNIT OF PISTEIROS SAW ACTION IN RECENT MECUMBURA OPERATION. ( SEE REF AIRGRAM)  
VAN OSS

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